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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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MYSURU Saturday 29th May 2021
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City shuts down

Mysuru, May 29 (RK&DM)- With the District Administration on Thursday last announcing a 10-day complete shutdown of five days a week starting from May 29, allowing opening of permitted category of shops for a limited time (6 am to 12 noon) only on Mondays and Thursdays as a resolve to break the COVID chain, Mysuru, the cultural capital of the State, wore a deserted look on the first day of the stringent lockdown today.

The usually buzzing Central Business District (CBD) and all other residential localities of the city saw only a handful of people venturing onto the streets.

Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri, who is also the District Magistrate, as part of her '**COVID-Mukta Mysuru' Campaign**, had on May 27 issued an order enforcing a total lockdown of the district from May 29 to June 7.

Tasked with strict enforcement of the stringent lockdown, the City Police swung into action right from early morning, erecting barricades at all prominent Circles, junctions and road intersections to restrict vehicular and public movement.

Police personnel have been deployed in full strength and are monitoring vehicular and public movement round-the-clock working in three shifts. While the Police erected barricades, several citizens were seen voluntarily imposing restrictions on entry and exit in their respective localities, by blocking roads using bamboo, foldable steel gates and huge tree branches.

Barring medical shops, milk booths, HOPCOMS outlets, diagnostic centres and such other medical facilities, all other shops, including provision stores, business and commercial establishments did not open.

(See SHUT on page 7)

Join hands for 'COVID-Mukta Mysuru' by July 1: DC's appeal to citizens

"By July 1st, which is the National Doctors Day, we want Mysuru to get COVID-free. It is not easy but we are committed. The date is selected as a mark of respect and deep gratitude to the medical fraternity. We are all together in this fight for humanity.

The virus has touched all of us in some form or other. Let us all join hands and work collectively by participating with full responsibility through self-regulation during this lockdown and showing our respect to all the doctors by making Mysuru 'COVID-Mukta' by July 1."

—Rohini Sindhuri, Deputy Commissioner, Mysuru

Child COVID vaccine trials at Cheluvamba Hospital

One among 10 Hospitals selected for trials in India; Dedicated team formed

Mysuru, May 29 (RK&BCT)- Amid a debate around inoculating children for the deadly COVID infection and the threat of the third wave where teens and children are predicted to be the worst affected, Cheluvamba Hospital in Mysuru has been selected by Institutional Ethics Committee for Covaxin's clinical trials in children aged two to 18 years.

According to Clinical Trial Registry of India, Cheluvamba Hospital, a reputed State-run hospital for woman and children under the Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMC&RI), is the only hospital in Karnataka and one among the 10 hospitals in India that have been selected for clinical trials.

It may be recalled here that the Phase-2 human trials of Oxford University's 'Covishield' was conducted at Mysuru's JSS Hospital and Medical College in August-September last year.

(See VACCINE on page 12)

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Saturday 29th May 2021

COVID donation: Calling retired State Govt. staff

Mysuru, May 29 - The Mysuru District Unit of Karnataka State Retired Government Employees Association has appealed all pensioners to donate a day's pension to the Government for COVID management and thus contribute in the fight against the deadly pandemic which is raging across the globe.

In a press release, the Association's General Secretary B.R.Umakanth said that the Executive Committee of the Association held an online meeting on May 24, during which it was decided to contribute a day's pension to the Government.

Accordingly, the members of the Association and all other pensioners are appealed to credit their one-day pension at the SBI Branch located close to their homes or at the Association's SBI Bank Branch on Vishwamanva Double road in Kuvempunagar (A/c No.64147290366. IFSC CODE.SBIN.0040441), latest by June 10. The pensioners, after crediting their day's pension, should send details such as their Association Membership Number, Amount sent etc., through a message to any one of the below mentioned mobile numbers: **94490-63746 or 98803-10544 or 95387-36262. They can also send the same through a post-card.**

The amount collected in total will be handed over to the Government through a DD or Cheque on June 12. Also, pensioners getting a high amount of pension are appealed to donate a minimum of Rs.5,000.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

Many Indian families have been affected by loss of lives or livelihoods in this second wave. Welfare schemes and cash handouts will not adequately replace lost earnings. Voter disappointment and powerful experiential collective memories will singe incumbent governments unless the opposition betrays phenomenal incompetence. BJP has narrowing wriggle room but the steady stream of Congress defectors in Gujarat, governed by BJP for 23 years, Goa and Manipur, hardly reassure voters of Congress' political viability and programme clarity. Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand flip every five years but Congress needs credible replacements for faded satraps Virbhadra Singh and Harish Rawat, with elections turning increasingly presidential.

Punjab, where BJP is a minor player, remains Congress' to lose. Even here Congress is its own worst enemy, as dissidence resurfaces. For a change, the toolkit controversy saw Congress stoutly defend its narrative. Yet it needs to recognise how BJP is responding promptly to a fast-changing political scenario. As the political ballast of BJP's post-2014 ascendancy, UP will corner much of the Modi-Shah-Nadda triumvirate and RSS' attention. In asking local leaders and cadres to step up, BJP is already on the move. The pandemic may be acting as a decentralising force in Indian politics. Will Congress wake up to what BJP may already have sensed? — *In The Times of India*

NEWS SPARKLERS

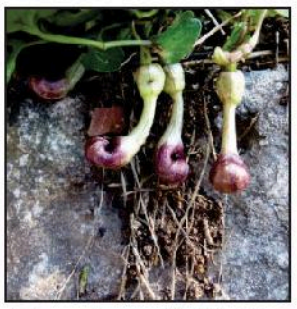
Tree still on fire after last summer's wildfire

California: Scientists and fire crews in California recently discovered a giant sequoia tree that is still smoldering and smoking, almost a year after the surrounding area was devastated by massive wildfires.

The 2020 Castle Fire, which broke out in August of last year and scorched more than 150,000 acres of land, including at least 10 sequoia groves in the region. No one knows how many of these ancient giants were destroyed by the blaze, but one thing is for sure, at least one of them is still smoldering and smoking, almost a year after.

National Park Service staff made the shocking discovery earlier this month, while conducting surveys in the area to assess the damage caused by last year's wildfire. One of them noticed plumes of smoke rising in the distance and using a long camera lens, tracked it down to a single sequoia.

Flower smells like dead insects to attract pollinators



Athens: A one-of-a-kind flower endemic to Greece is believed to emit a scent similar to that of decomposing insects in order to attract one of its main pollinators, the coffin fly.

Not all flowers smell nice. In fact, some smell like some of the grossest thing in the world, because their pollinators are attracted to these disgusting scents. Take Aristolochia microstoma, a small flower endemic to Greece, which deceives its main pollinator, the coffin fly, by emitting an unusual mix of scents that includes a compound found in dead beetles. Coffin flies are attracted to carrion, to the scent lures them into the flower where they are trapped long enough to deposit pollen to carry onto the female organs.

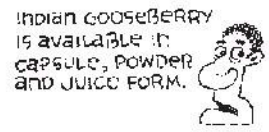
HEALTH CAPSULE

Confused on the right quantity of nutrition in your diet? Add 6 -11 servings of cereals, pulses and legumes,3-5 servings of vegetables, 2-3 servings of meat, poultry, fish and egg, 2-3 servings of milk & milk products and reduce the consumption of high sugar, fat and highly processed food as much as possible.

By Kavya J. - Department of Nutrition & Dietetics

COLUMBIA ASIA
COLUMBIA ASIA HOSPITAL - MYSORE
A unit of ManipalHospitals

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*



The little-known Indian Gooseberry has been shown to be almost as effective as the popular cancer drug taxol at inhibiting cancer cell metastasis. Also known as Amla, the Indian Gooseberry is among the most potent plant compounds known to man.

COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

DATES	MAY 27	MAY 28
Day's Positive Cases	2,240	1,677
Total Positive Cases	1,36,688	1,38,365
Day's Discharges	2,088	1,804
Total Discharges	1,18,38	1,20,191
Day's Deaths	18	20
Total Deaths	1,556	1,576
Total Active Cases	16,745	16,598

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

Beauticians appeal for financial aid

Mysuru, May 29- The Mysuru Hair and Beauty Association, covering the districts of Mysuru, Mandya, Chamarajanagar and Kodagu, has appealed the Government to announce a financial aid and distribution of ration and medical kits to beauticians.

In a press release, Association President Uma Jadav said that for over one year since the outbreak of COVID pandemic last year, beauticians are unable to run their business due to lockdown and other restrictions imposed by the Government.

Maintaining that beauticians are facing heavy losses due to shut down, she said that the financial crunch due to loss of business has left them with huge debts.

Pointing out that most of the beauticians are from economically weaker sections, she said that their lives have become miserable as they are unable to make their ends meet.

As such, the Government must come to the rescue of beauticians by announcing financial assistance and also distribute ration and medical kits for free in these testing times, the press release said.

REALLY...?

- ***The very first belts were documented thousands of years ago in the prehistoric period of the Bronze Age. Belts were found in Ancient times too, in archaeological and historical findings, belts were found in various shapes and ornaments. It was said that these findings confirmed that the belt has relevance particularly in Ancient Egypt, Ancient Greece and Ancient Hebrew Civilizations.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

A Police officer stops a car.
Officer: *Your driver's licence please.*
Driver: *I'm really sorry, I forgot.*
Officer: *At home?*
Driver: *No, to do it !!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 72.39
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 102.80
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 19.71
1 Euro	= Rs. 88.27

VOICE OF THE READER

Set up Ward-level health team for better COVID management

Sir,

On May 25, one of my family members started experiencing fever at 5 pm. At around 6 pm, I took him to a Super-speciality Hospital in the city where the RAT test was conducted which turned positive.

The doctors had put him on basic COVID medicine and had advised to stay in home isolation. Since we had the facility of providing home isolation we ensured that all the necessary things from oximeter to thermometer were purchased, provided medication and monitored that his vitals are stable.

But the most pathetic part was that four days after the test turned positive, the Mysuru unique code and SRFID was generated and was sent on the registered cellphone informing that a call would be made to us.

After 24 hours, a call came from DC Office Control Room asking for the details of the patient, family and their health condition. On the sixth day morning, a pre-recorded call came asking the patient to give his response to basic questions by pressing the numbers.

To my surprise, there was no call from the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) or from the Triage team or no one from the Corporation visited to provide the health kits or to look into the condition of the patient.

Though the City Corporation claims to have constituted Ward-level Committees and send teachers to check on those in home isolation nothing such happened in reality.

If this is the case in MCC limits, what will be the fate of patients in rural areas. When cities like Mumbai, Kochi and other places have Ward Committees from the concerned Corporation to track the patients and verify and update the patient condition, why can't it be adopted in Mysuru city?

When we have such a good infrastructure and technology, why should it take four days to create a MYSID or six days to answer an automated call? This bitter experience has created fear in me that our administration is still not equipped to handle an epidemic like COVID-19.

I urge the authorities to at least reach out to the patients within 48 hours so that the patient condition does not deteriorate further and see that he or she is shifted to the nearest hospital before his vitals collapse.

—K. Shivakumar
Gangotri Layout
26.5.2021

DC visits COVID War Room, lauds service of volunteers

Mysuru, May 29 (MTY&DM)- With COVID cases showing a declining trend in the district, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rohini Sindhuri yesterday visited the COVID War Room set up in the new DC's Office at Siddarthanagar in the city.

A good number of volunteers who include NCC Cadets, teachers, members of various organisations, Gram Panchayat personnel and other civilians from all ages, are serving at the COVID War Room, appropriately guiding and helping the callers who seek information about availability of beds and oxygen, COVID treatment facilities etc.

NCC Care-taker Officer Mamatha Prasad conducted the DC at the Helpline Desk. The cadets explained their working and charter of duties.

Rohini Sindhuri lauded the services of all the volunteers and the generosity of Helping Hands organisation which has taken up the responsibility of supplying food to volunteers.

Additional DC Dr. B.S. Manjunathaswamy, Assistant Commissioner N.C. Venkataraju, Triage Nodal Officer Dr. B.S. Seethalakshmi, Bed Management Officer Lt. Col. Dr. S.U. Ashok, SAST Nodal Officer Dr. Monisha, Sanjay Manohar, Sunil Jetti and others were present.

KUWJ appeals CM for announcing package for Journalists

Bengaluru, May 29- The **Karnataka Union of Working Journalists (KUWJ)**, Bengaluru, has appealed the Chief Minister to announce a financial package to journalists who are facing economic problems due to COVID -19 crisis.

A KUWJ delegation led by its President Shivanand Thagadur met CM B.S.Yediyurappa in the State capital on Wednesday and submitted a memorandum containing the charter of demands, which chiefly included announcement of Rs.10,000 financial assistance to all COVID crisis hit journalists, payment of Rs.5 lakh as compensation to the families of COVID dead scribes and vaccination of all scribes and their family members, Newspaper Agents and Distributors, Cable Operators etc., on priority.

Receiving the memorandum, the CM promised to look into the demands.

Mysore Varsity to provide free higher education to students who lost parents to COVID

Prof. Hemantha Kumar

Mysuru, May 29 (YDS&SSV)- The Syndicate Meeting of University of Mysore (UoM) has decided to reserve 5 seats in Under Graduate Colleges and Post Graduate Centres in its jurisdiction for those students whose parents have succumbed to Coronavirus.

The meeting, held under the Chairmanship of Prof. G. Hemantha Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, UoM, here yesterday, expressed its concern over the increased cases of positive cases and deaths especially in second wave of Corona. The deaths have occurred more in Mysuru and surrounding districts.

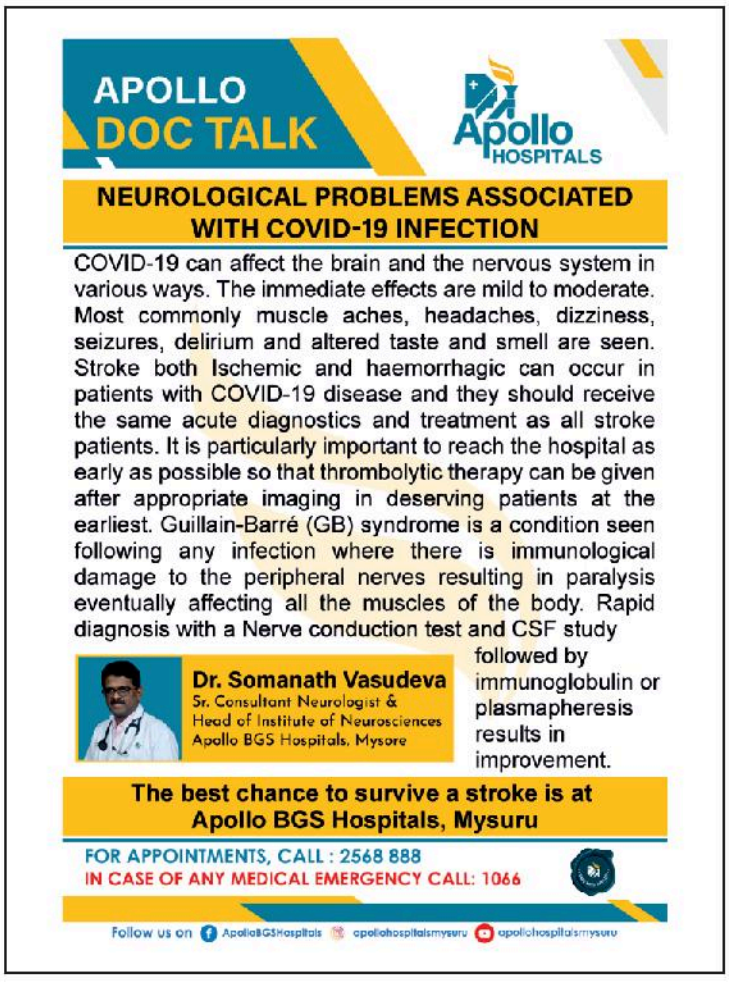
In the wake of this, the meeting has decided to provide free education to those students by reserving five seats each in Maharaja's College, Yuvaraja's College, University Evening College and Fine Arts College. Besides, three seats will be reserved in PG Centres of Manasagangothri in Mysuru, Sir M. Visvesvaraya PG Centre in Mandya, Hemagangothri in Hassan and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar PG Centre in Chamarajanagar. Admission will be given as per eligibility.

Obituary

K.R. Kumar

Mysuru, May 29- K.R. Kumar (75), Chairman of Sunanda Group of Industries, Mysuru and a resident of Yadavagiri, passed away this morning following brief illness.

He leaves behind his wife, two sons, a daughter and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were held at Chirashantidhama in Gokulam this afternoon.


APOLLO DOC TALK
Apollo HOSPITALS
NEUROLOGICAL PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH COVID-19 INFECTION
COVID-19 can affect the brain and the nervous system in various ways. The immediate effects are mild to moderate. Most commonly muscle aches, headaches, dizziness, seizures, delirium and altered taste and smell are seen. Stroke both Ischemic and haemorrhagic can occur in patients with COVID-19 disease and they should receive the same acute diagnostics and treatment as all stroke patients. It is particularly important to reach the hospital as early as possible so that thrombolytic therapy can be given after appropriate imaging in deserving patients at the earliest. Guillain-Barré (GB) syndrome is a condition seen following any infection where there is immunological damage to the peripheral nerves resulting in paralysis eventually affecting all the muscles of the body. Rapid diagnosis with a Nerve conduction test and CSF study followed by immunoglobulin or plasmapheresis results in improvement.
Dr. Somanath Vasudeva
Sr. Consultant Neurologist & Head of Institute of Neurosciences
Apollo BGS Hospitals, Mysore
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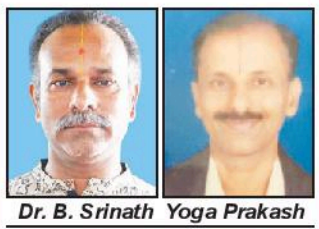
NEWS BRIEFS

New team of Yoga Association



Dr. B. Srinath Yoga Prakash

N. Ananth Ramesh

The following persons have been elected unopposed as the office-bearers of Mysore Yoga Association at its General Body Meeting: Dr. B. Srinath - President, Yoga Prakash - Vice-President, N. Ananth - Secretary and Ramesh - Treasurer.

'Kishore' exam for high school students

Kishore Bharati will be conducting Kishore - Exam 2021 on "Great Personalities of Bharata" on July 11 at 11 am. The exam will be online or physical depending on COVID situation. Students of 8th to 10th standards are eligible to appear. Link for registration: https://tinyurl.com/MysuruKB. Kishore Bharati is a volunteer group engaging with teens to develop samskara in them and develop patriotic values, volunteer development and create a vibrant and constructive society. It has been conducting cultural exams on different topics during summer holidays. For details contact Mob: 97438-08947 or 96207-83541.

COVID-19 HELPLINE

MYSURU
0821 - 2424111
0821 - 2957811
0821 - 2957711
For victim's funeral contact MCC
94498 - 41195
94498 - 41196
0821 - 2418800
Telecare
2420112/113
0821 - 2330803
0821 - 2331803

Food distribution allowed only at Doddakere Maidan and J.K. Grounds

Mysuru, May 29 (MTY&DM)- With inputs that unhindered food distribution at public places is resulting in rampant spread of the virus, the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) has ordered mass distribution of food packets only at the spacious J.K. Grounds and Doddakere Maidan in city.

In an order issued on Thursday, the MCC said that henceforth food distribution will be allowed only at these two designated spots as a precautionary and safety measure. However, food packets distribution by Ahara Akshaya Jolige in front of Government Ayurveda College will continue at the same spot.

Donors have been distributing food packets daily in front of K.R. Hospital and CADA Office on Sayyaji Rao Road since the lockdown was enforced.

As it was noticed that people used to vie with each other for getting food packets by throwing all COVID guidelines to the wind, the MCC decided to allow distribution of food only at J.K. Grounds and Doddakere Maidan, with effect from May 27. The MCC has erected pendals at J.K. Grounds for food distribution and has issued directions on ensuring COVID appropriate behaviour among people who line up for getting food packets.

About 8 to 10 donors used to distribute food in front of K.R. Hospital, which benefited hundreds of shelter-less and other destitutes every day. Likewise, hundreds of people benefited from food distribution that used to take place in front of CADA Office on Sayyaji Rao road. However, following reports that people were giving a go by to COVID guidelines and also about a few people throwing food in the vicinity due to dislike of food served, the authorities, taking note that it endangered the safety of public, have ordered stoppage to food distribution at these two points.

Timings fixed

Now mass scale food distribution is allowed only at J.K. Grounds and Doddakere Maidan, with specified timings. While breakfast packets distribution will be allowed from 8 am to 11 am, lunch distribution will be between 12.30 pm and 2.30 pm and dinner from 6 pm to 8 pm.

Thirteenth COVID Mitra Centre opens in Chamundeshwari segment with Ambulance facility

Mysuru, May 29 (RKB&SSV)- The 13th COVID Mitra Centre was opened at Vishwapragna School on Dattagalli Ring Road in Chamundeshwari Assembly Constituency here yesterday.

MLA G.T. Devegowda inaugurated this Centre by flagging of an ambulance provided to the Taluk Administration for shifting of COVID positive patients to the Hospital or to the Centre.

Speaking on the occasion, he said 700 ASHA and Anganwadi workers work in this Constituency. Each team comprising two workers is given 20 masks, face shields and 10 pair of gloves since they have been put on house-to-house survey work for the early detection and treatment of COVID infected people. Besides, they have been given digital thermometer and pulse oximeter to examine every person.

He said the COVID Mitra Centre with 100 bed capacity has been opened at the Horticulture College Hostel at Yelachanahalli village for the sake of Corona positive patients of Yelwal. It included 10 oxygenated beds and 15 general beds. There was a provision to increase the bed strength to 400, he added.

Ward No. 46 Corporator Lakshmi Kiran Madegowda, Ward 44 Corporator Nirmala Harish, Ward 58 Corporator P.K. Sharath, Assistant Commissioner Sathyamurthy, COVID Mitra In-Charge Dr. B.V. Raviteja and others were present.

Farmers incur Rs. 1 lakh crore loss due to lockdown: KRRS

Mysuru, May 29 (UNI)- Due to the lockdown imposed following a surge in COVID-19 positive cases during the second wave, the loss Karnataka farmers have incurred was estimated at Rs. 1 lakh crore, said Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha (KRRS) President Badagalapura Nagendra.

Addressing a press conference here on Friday, he urged that the State Government should announce a special package. The lockdown restrictions are forcing farmers to sell their products at a lower price. In some places, they are losing because of the absence of a market and some farmers were forced to dump their produce on the road as the price they get will not meet even transportation and labour charges.

He said according to the statistics available, the farmers lost around Rs. 1 lakh crore since the lockdown was announced. Paddy harvesting is over and the government should open procurement centres and buy them at the minimum support price. Farmers who have already sold paddy, ragi, jowar and other crops to procurement centres should get their due immediately, he urged.

ADC reviews situation in Nanjangud Taluk

Mysuru, May 29 (SSV)- Additional Deputy Commissioner Dr. B.S. Manjunathaswamy visited Nanjangud town and held a meeting with doctors of Private Hospitals and Clinics and also Taluk Task Force Committee members on Thursday.

Dr. C.N. Venkataraju, Assistant Commissioner, Mysuru Division, accompanied him.

They took stock of COVID situation in the taluk and collected details about house-to-house survey, implementation of Pancha Sutra, visit of people to COVID Mitra Centres and the progress of vaccination for Corona Warriors in the taluk as per Government guidelines. Tahsildar and other Taluk Officers provided information to the duo.

Work cordially with officers, GTD tells MP Pratap Simha

'Both CM and PM listen to you. Prove your might by transferring the DC if you are unhappy'

Mysuru, May 29 (RKB&BCT)- Irked by certain statements made by Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha against Mysuru Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rohini Sindhuri and about COVID management in all Taluks of Mysuru by MLAs, Chamundeshwari MLA G.T. Devegowda (GTD) said that the MP must not give statements that cause rift between elected representatives and officers of the district.

"Pratap Simha must stop giving statements day in and day out confusing the people. Rather, he must join hands with the officers for a united fight against the pandemic," the MLA said.

Speaking to reporters after donating an ambulance and launching COVID Mitra at Dattagalli in city yesterday, GTD unleashed a no-holds-barred attack on the MP and said, "Both Chief Minister and Prime Minister listen to you. You should not be making loose statements to gain publicity. Prove your might by transferring the DC if you are unhappy with her work. But stop criticising the administration in public as it will create confusion in the minds of people. Nothing is achieved with media statements. There seems to be some personal vendetta behind your statements," GTD said.

MLAs DOING A BETTER JOB

Apparently peeved over Pratap Simha's statement lauding his *bête noire* and K.R. Nagar MLA S.R. Mahesh for going out of the way to help COVID-19 patients in his Constituency, GTD said that the local MLAs are doing a better job than Simha who is only good at making noise. "The MP has claimed that except K.R. Nagar MLA all other 10 MLAs in the district are not working. It is not possible for the people's representatives to work without the officers who actually implement various schemes and programmes of the Government. The MP must remember that the elected representatives get credit because of the sincere officers," he said.

"All local MLAs are spending money from their own pockets for the convenience and good of the people from their Constituencies. The MP is issuing statements without any logic. As a local MP how much has he spent from his own pocket?" GTD questioned.

SUSPICIOUS MOVES

"Pratap Simha was in full praise for the DC till recently and now suddenly he is speaking against her. This gives rise to suspicion in the minds of people and the official machinery gets demoralised. The MP is creating differences among the officials. He has taken the responsibility of oxygen and Remdesivir Task Force from the last eight to 10 days. Before he took charge, wasn't the administration working? Is it possible to control COVID in a day or two?" Devegowda questioned.

"DC Rohini Sindhuri, MCC Commissioner Shilpa Nag, ZP CEO A.M. Yogesh, City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta and a host of other officers in MCC and district level are doing a good job. In fact, COVID Mitra was the DC's idea that has worked now. Even District Minister S.T. Somashekar has called for all-round cooperation and all elected representatives are working towards that goal. We must support officers in this time of crisis," he added.

A LAUGHING STOCK

"It is the Opposition that should be talking about the failures of the District Administration if any. On the contrary, Pratap Simha of the ruling party is talking about it. Why should he give newspaper statements which lead to confusion? As a result Mysuru is becoming a laughing stock," GTD regretted.

NOT THE TIME TO CHANGE THE CM

When his attention was drawn to the reports that there is likely to be a change of leadership in Karnataka, GTD opined, "People are dying because of Coronavirus and what is the need for a change in leadership now. Some of the BJP leaders are rushing to New Delhi to complain against Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa. He is doing a fair job and we need to allow him to work."

GTD is like a father figure to me, he has every right to chide me: MP

'I have proven my might with my work'

Mysuru, May 29 (RKB& BCT)- Taking MLA G.T. Devegowda's criticism in his stride, MP Pratap Simha said that if one considers transferring an officer as a way to prove one's might, he does not need that kind of prowess. "I have proven my might as an MP with my work. When the first time I was elected, I got 30,000 votes and as I have done good work and have proved myself, the people of Mysuru and Kodagu have elected me for the second time and I won by a margin of 1 lakh, 40,000 votes. What else can I show to prove my might," he asked.

"In politics it is common to transfer officers from one place to another. But I consider this as a mean task. I know my strength and have shown it through my works. I don't need to transfer or blame the officials. I am maintaining good rapport with officials, even with the DC. I had only told her to visit the rural areas where COVID cases are rising. What wrong did I do," he asked.

"When the Chamarajanagar tragedy happened, I was the one who stood behind the Mysuru DC when allegations were levelled against her that 24 persons died as Mysuru did not supply oxygen to Chamarajanagar. No one spoke in her favour then," he said.

"If COVID cases are under control, then why was the lockdown extended? It is because the problem exists. It is inevitable to visit the rural areas to resolve the issue. I have appreciated the people who do their best. I have lauded Congress MLAs Anil Chikkamadu and H.P. Manjunath, JD(S) MLAs Mahadev and S.R. Mahesh and also BJP MLA B. Harshavardhan. Mahesh has established a 200-bed facility with his own fund. I definitely appreciate people who do good work," Pratap Simha said.

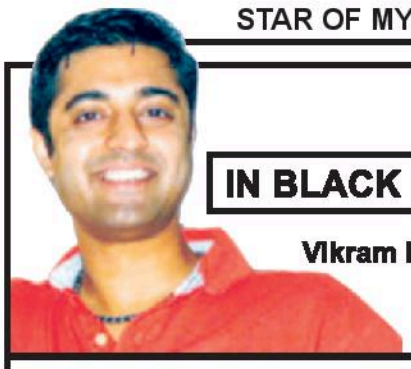
"Devegowda is a straight forward person and I know him well. He is like a father figure to me. He has every right to chide me. Yes, I lauded MLA S.R. Mahesh for his good work and my intention is not to demean anybody. I cannot help if anyone misconstrues my words," the MP said.

No shadow boxing among Netas and DC: Minister Somashekar

Mysuru, May 29 (MTY&SSV)- Ruling out shadow boxing between the elected representatives and bureaucracy in the district, Co-operation and District in-Charge Minister S.T. Somashekar said everyone is working in tandem with the sole aim of defeating COVID-19 pandemic in Mysuru. He was speaking to reporters on the sidelines of a function here this morning.

Asked whether he liked the style of functioning of the DC, the Minister said the question of he liking or disliking her style of working does not arise as the aim before them was to banish the Coronavirus. There was nothing wrong in MP Pratap Simha asking the DC to visit rural areas in the interest of people's health and not out of personal enmity.

"Though I am the District in-Charge Minister, any MLA or MP or other elected representatives can give their suggestions. I am open to any suggestion given by anyone if it is in the interest of society at large," he said.



IN BLACK & WHITE

Vikram Muthanna

TROUBLE Baba

On Sunday, India's most famous, most flexible and most business-savvy Baba, Baba Ramdev was forced to withdraw a statement where he had said "lakhs have died from taking allopathic medicines for COVID-19."

But, just a day after retracting his statement he mocked allopathy by posing 25 questions to the Indian Medical Association (IMA).

He asked if allopathy offered permanent relief for ailments such as hypertension and diabetes. He asked if allopathy had any painless cure to treat infertility or reverse ageing. He then asked why allopathy, which has been around for 200 years still hasn't found cure for liver ailments.

Well, the important question the twisty yoga teacher forgot to ask himself is, while he expects a 200-year-old system to cure ailments, why hasn't a 5,000-year-old system, ayurveda, which he profits from, not found a cure for all these ailments?

Ramdev then added, "Doctors should not fall ill at all if allopathy is all-powerful." Well, the important question Ramdev should have asked himself is, don't Babas fall ill? In spite of their strict diet and twisty yoga asanas, Babas still fall sick.

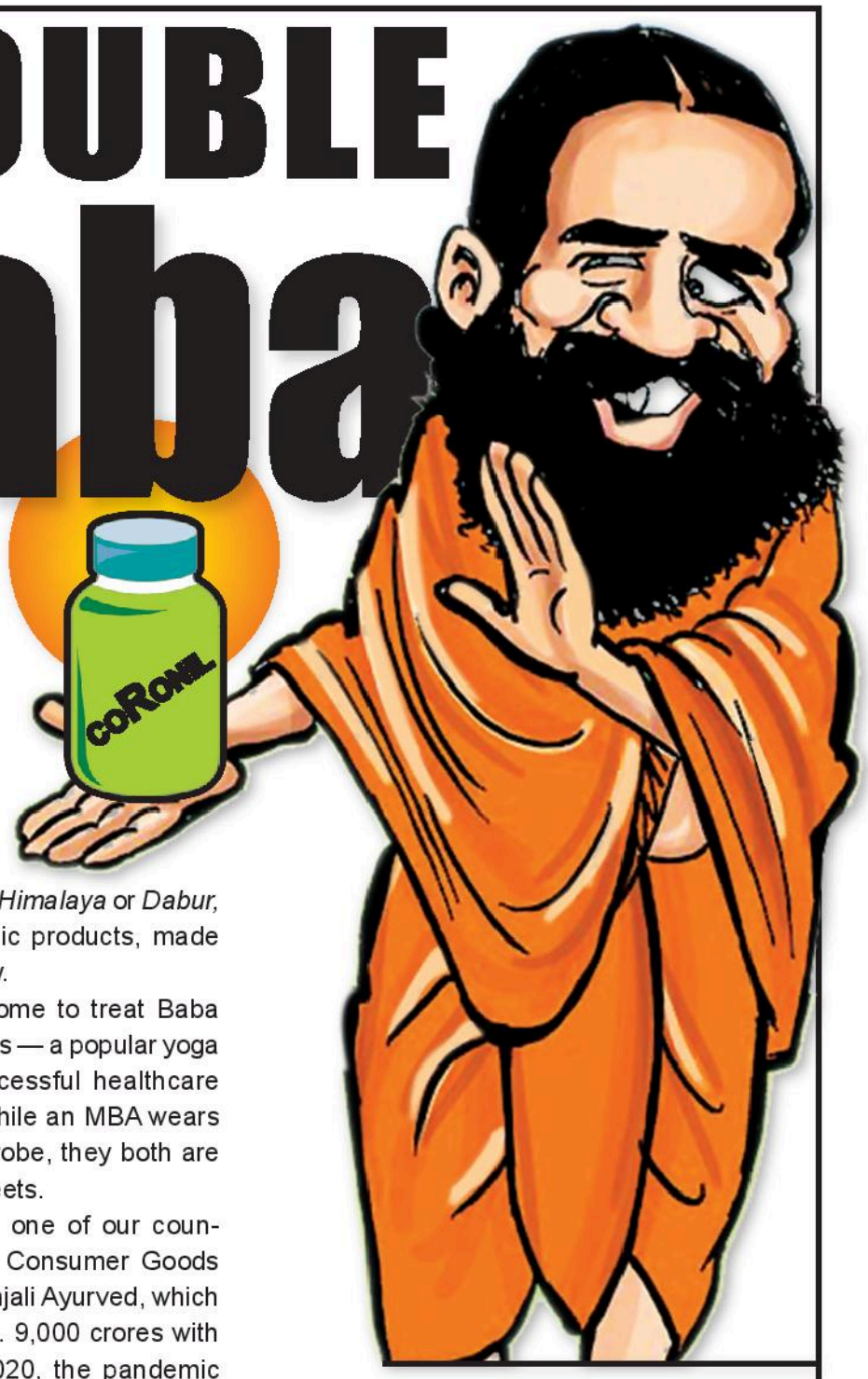
Didn't his close aide and business partner, Acharya Balkrishna get admitted at All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Rishikesh after he complained of chest pain and giddiness? Why didn't Ramdev just plonk his aide under a banyan tree and smear some leafy concoction to improve his condition at the ashram itself?

Unquestionably ayurveda works, but let's not belittle modern medicine. Allopathy has not only saved millions of lives but improved it. The very fact that an Indian's average life expectancy rose from 40 years of age in 1950s to 69 years of age today, in spite of our terrible lifestyle, is proof of allopathy's success.

But, Baba Ramdev should understand this is not about which system of medicine is better, it's about spreading misinformation at a time when people need to be reassured of government healthcare systems and protocols so people come forward for early detection and vaccination.

This is not the time to mock healthcare workers, it is not the time to sow seeds of doubt and distrust about our medical fraternity and it is definitely not the time to lobby for 'ayurveda' like modern 'pharmacy' companies do...oh! Wait a minute, isn't Baba Ramdev a partner and the face of a Pharma company? Albeit an ayurvedic pharma company!

Makes one wonder if Ramdev is pushing for business? Does he feel ayurveda is missing out to allopathy? Is he disappointed that as crores worth of allopathic medicines are being ordered by the government, his company's COVID medicine 'Coronil' languishes with no takers?



It is truly unfortunate that the Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan simply reprimanded Ramdev by asking him to withdraw the "extremely unfortunate" statement. Would the government have been so forgiving had the representatives of *Himalaya* or *Dabur,* which also make ayurvedic products, made such a statement? No way.

May be the time has come to treat Baba Ramdev for what he really is — a popular yoga teacher who owns a successful healthcare products company. And while an MBA wears a suit and Baba wears a robe, they both are aware of their balance sheets.

Baba Ramdev co-owns one of our country's biggest Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) companies, Patanjali Ayurved, which had a turnover of over Rs. 9,000 crores with Rs. 424 crore profit in 2020, the pandemic year! His company sells everything from toothpaste to torn jeans. From creams that make you fair to jewellery that make you lovely. He also owns 5 TV channels under Vedic Broadcasting Ltd.

There is no doubt that Baba Ramdev forged his own path to be a political influencer, but may be that influence is being over-estimated like the influencers on *instagram* and *facebook*.

We remember when Ramdev flew into Delhi to join the Ramlila protest, four UPA Ministers, including our former President Pranab Mukherjee met Ramdev requesting him to go back. Of course, they over-estimated his resilience, conviction and courage because he later escaped dressed like a woman and then could not even fast for four days.

While Baba Ramdev's anti-corruption stance may have benefitted his Patanjali products and the BJP, he is not popular enough to be a major vote-getter. So the BJP doesn't have to perform *Anuvittasana,* a back-bending *asana* and tolerate Baba's statements.

One may ask what is wrong if Baba Ramdev cultivates and uses political influence. After all, business owners do the same. The only difference being that they purchase a Rajya Sabha seat to lobby for their business in Parliament while Ramdev uses yoga, ayurveda and saffron robes to do the same. There is nothing wrong in this, but...

It is wrong when someone claims that his company can cure everything from cancer to Ebola. It becomes a social problem and a hindrance to the healthcare delivery system when a Baba with a following says homosexuality is just an addiction which he can cure and that Corona is just a virus that his 'Coronil' tablets can cure.

Indeed, allopathy does not have cure for most of the ailments that Baba Ramdev listed out, but it does help manage them very well. On the other hand, even ayurveda hasn't done so well with these ailments even with a 5,000 year headstart.

That said Baba Ramdev cannot challenge allopathy on aliments that don't exist like when he asked if allopathy can cure "bloating amnesia".... This is not a recorded medical problem, it doesn't exist! Looks like the twisty Baba is having some bloating issues, may be he can pop a *Pathanjali Chitrakadi vati* tablet; it suppresses gas.

For now, by making claims of unproven cures and making up ailments, Baba Ramdev is damaging the seriousness of ayurveda as a system of medicine and wellness.

Since BJP loves ayurveda and yoga and wants to protect the sanctity of these two ancient Indian systems of medicine and well-being, they better ask Baba Ramdev to take a DEEEEP breath and hold it till Corona goes.

e-mail: vikram@starofmysore.com

Netas Vs Babus: CM directs everyone to work in tandem

- MP Pratap Simha, MLA S.R. Mahesh complain against DC
- MLA G.T. Devegowda backs DC Rohini Sindhuri
- Periyapatna MLA K. Mahadev skips CM's video-conference

Mysuru, May 29 (MTY& SSV)- Following reports of alleged skirmishes between the elected representatives and District Administration headed by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rohini Sindhuri, Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa has asked everyone to work in tandem to bring down the Corona Positive cases and mortality rate in district.

The CM was holding video-conference with districts which have high positivity and mortality rates and also in view of explosion of cases in rural areas in the State this morning. The Government is launching "Vaidyara Nadige Halli Kadege" (doctors march towards rural areas) to check the spread of Corona virus in rural areas.

The CM, who gave a patient hearing to suggestions and problems from ten MLAs, three MLCs and MP of Mysuru, promised all help from the State Government. He also advised them to work in coordination till COVID comes under control.

According to sources, MP Pratap Simha and K.R. Nagar JD(S) MLA S.R. Mahesh are said to have complained to the CM about DC Rohini Sindhuri not visiting rural areas to assess the situation. Mahesh is learnt to have told that where as District Minister Somashekar has visited his taluk, the DC has not bothered to visit despite 50 deaths being reported in K.R. Nagar taluk. The duo sought to know the reasons why the DC was not going to villages which are reporting more number of cases and deaths than Mysuru city. However, Chamundeshwari MLA G.T. Devegowda heaped praises on the DC for taking up COVID-related initiatives in his Constituency. *[See also page 5]*

Varuna MLA Dr. Yathindra Siddharamaiah of the Congress spoke about shortage of oxygen at hospitals in his Constituency, Krishnaraja MLA S.A. Ramdas requested the CM to expedite supply of medicines which had been purchased out of his area development fund.

Speaking to media after the meeting, Minister Somashekar categorically denied that MP Pratap Simha and MLA Mahesh had complained to CM against the DC. He said that the elected representatives only spoke about medical supplies for hospitals in their Constituencies. They also spoke with unison for completing the ongoing house-to-house survey at the earliest for early detection and treatment of infected persons.

The CM was briefed about the need for ramping up the supply of injections for treating Mucormycosis (Black Fungus) cases which were on the rise in district. As on today, there are 54 active cases of Black Fungus and each patient needs to be given one injection per day for 21 days. The district has just 121 vials as on today. This problem has been discussed with Dy. Chief Minister Dr. C.N. Ashwathnarayana who has promised increase allocation to district soon, Somashekar maintained.

The District Minister also told Yediyurappa that the District Administration has taken all steps to make the district Corona-free by July 1.

Centre extends containment measures till June 30

Ongoing lockdown in Karnataka may have to be extended beyond June 7, say experts

New Delhi/ Bengaluru, May 29 (Agencies)- The Centre has extended the nationwide COVID-19 restrictions, which were put in place after its Apr. 29 order, till June 30. The Home Ministry said that even though the number of cases is declining, restrictions are necessary to put a check on the spread of the disease.

Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla has written to all States and UTs asking them to maintain strict rules in implementing containment and other measures in view of the declining trend in the number of new and active-daily cases.

"The strict implementation of containment and other measures has led to a declining trend in the number of new and active cases, across States and UTs, barring some areas in the Southern and North-Eastern regions," the letter said.

"I would like to highlight that in spite of the declining trend, the number of active cases presently is still very high. It is, therefore, important that containment measures may continue to be implemented strictly. Any relaxation may be considered at an appropriate time, in a graded manner, after assessing the local situation, requirements and resources," the order further said.

In the Apr. 29 order, the MHA directed the States to go for intensive and local containment measures in districts with a high number of cases to check the spread of the viral disease. It asked them to identify the districts where positivity rate was more than 10 percent in the last one week.

The MHA also asked the States to consider the containment measures, as conveyed in an advisory issued by the Union Health Ministry for immediate implementation based on an assessment of the situation. The Health Ministry said that the second wave is on the "downswing" in the country. It, however, highlighted that the current number of active cases is "still very high".

Karnataka scenario

If the number of active Coronavirus cases does not drop, the ongoing lockdown in Karnataka may have to be extended beyond June 7 experts said.

The number of active COVID-19 cases crossed 4 lakh mark and the total number of infections crossed the 25 lakh mark, as the State recorded 24,214 new cases and 476 fatalities in the last 24 hours. While the positivity rate stood at 17.59 percent, the Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was at 1.96 percent.

Elaborating on the situation, Prof. Sashikumar Ganesan, Chairman, Department of Computational and Data Sciences at the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, asserted that the number of active cases today is much higher than the number of cases they had estimated in the worst scenario, that is no lockdown.

"The numbers suggest that something has gone wrong with the lockdown and consequently the Government should not think of lifting the restrictions. The next three to four days are crucial to making this determination," he said.

City shuts down

(Continued from page 1)

Public movement on roads too was restricted, with the Police checking people venturing onto the streets. Only medical staff, health workers, Government staff, media persons and medical shop personnel were allowed to proceed further upon production of their Identity card.

Also, Police allowed people who were on way to Hospitals and other medical facilities for testing, vaccination and check-ups upon production of records.

As far as vehicular movement was concerned, the Police allowed travel of ambulances, other Hospital vehicles, goods vehicles carrying commodities, vehicles supplying medicines, transporting medical equipment and Oxygen, LPG cylinder vehicles, food delivery vans meant for serving the poor and needy and such other essential services.

DCPs Dr. A.N. Prakash Gowda and Geetha Prasanna and ACPs of all Sub-Divisions conducted patrolling across the city. Also, vehicular and public movement on roads is being continuously monitored at the centralised Control Room that functions from the City Police Commissioner's Office. In case of any sudden and significant rise in vehicle or public movement anywhere and at any point of time, the Control Room staff will alert the jurisdictional Police.

In other measures concerning lockdown enforcement, the Police deployed at inter-District check-posts on all roads leading to and out of the city, are thoroughly screening all types of vehicles entering and exiting the city. Vehicles are allowed to pass only if documents are produced in support of their movement.

Police are seizing vehicles found unnecessarily venturing out on the roads and penalising citizens found not wearing masks and other guideline violations.

Many Police vehicles were seen asking citizens to co-operate with the Government for breaking the COVID-19 chain by following all COVID-19 appropriate behaviour and adhering to other protocols.

Overall, it can be said that the first day of the 10-day stringent lockdown today was a huge success with the citizens voluntarily staying indoors.

Corona-Free Mysuru Campaign:
DC seeks citizens' co-operation
Inaugurates vaccination drive for scribes

Mysuru, May 29 (RK&SSV)- On the occasion of Doctors Day on July 1, the District Administration wants to show its utmost respect to the doctors community and in this direction a "Corona-Free Mysuru Campaign" has been launched, said Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri.

Speaking to mediapersons after inaugurating the vaccination drive for journalists under the aegis of Mysuru District Journalists Association (MDJA) at Pathrakarthara Bhavan here yesterday, she sought the co-operation of every citizen to control the pandemic and reduce the mortality rate in Mysuru District which was less than the State average.

The record vaccination in the district has helped to reduce the death rate and the vaccination drive has been successful in this district when compared to other districts, she noted.

The only 'equipment' people have to fight the COVID-19 pandemic is the vaccine and hence people must get vaccinated at the earliest, she added.

The DC said journalists are also frontline workers and they have been included in 25 categories to be vaccinated on priority. If they have any symptoms they can go to COVID Mitra and take treatment free of cost, she added.

In fact, the highest number of RT-PCR test has been going on in Mysuru after BBMP. Though the district was reporting the record number of positive cases, the number of deaths has been very low. The complete lockdown from Saturday will be as per the Government guidelines that needs to be followed by everyone. Till June 7, citizens are allowed to buy the essentials only on Mondays and Thursdays. However, medical shops, milk booths and HOPCOMS will remain open for the benefit of people, the DC noted.

Department of Information and Public Relations Assistant Director R. Raju, MDJA President S.T. Ravikumar, Vice-President Anurag Basavaraj, General Secretary M. Subramanya, Treasurer Raghavendra and others were present.

No jab, no work: KSRTC Divisional Controller

Mysuru, May 29 (SPN & SSV)- The Divisional Controller of KSRTC Mysuru Division Srinivas has taken a decision not to allow those drivers, who have not taken COVID vaccination, to drive the buses.

In a press release, he has said this rule was applicable to the staff members working in seven units of Rural Depot, Divisional Workshop, City Central Bus Stand and Divisional Offices to compulsorily take COVID vaccination failing which they will not be allowed to work in their respective places of work.

Eight vaccination sites have been created for the sake of employees but many of them were hesitant to take the jab. They have remained outside the places of work without taking vaccination, he noted.

ZP CEO's Panchayat run
continues in Nanjangud Taluk

Mysuru, May 29 (SSV)- Continuing his visits to Gram Panchayats in the wake of spike in Corona positive cases, Zilla Panchayat Chief Executive Officer (CEO) A.M. Yogesh inspected a few Gram Panchayats and Primary Health Centres in Nanjangud Taluk yesterday.

He went to Tandavapura, Kempisiddanahundi, Hulimaavu, Hosakote and Suttur GPs and Health Sub-Centre to see the COVID management. Visiting Tandavapura Health Centre, he collected information about the number of patients in COVID Care Centres and home isolation and asked officers to arrange for the sale of fruits and vegetables near the houses of positive patients. ASHA workers were directed to complete house-to-house survey at the earliest.

At Kempisiddanahundi GP, Yogesh collected information about COVID management from the Panchayat Development Officer. Later, he went to Hulimaavu GP and discussed about the number of infected and recovered patients.

Then, he went to Hosakote Primary Health Centre and computed details on the shortage of medicine and issued directions to conduct Rapid Antigen Test in the Centre.

Panchayat Development Officers, Avinash, Chaya, Mahadevaswamy, Shivakumar and other ASHA workers were present.

DC inspects COVID Centre in Hunsur, enquires patients' health condition

Hunsur, May 29 (KK&SSV)- Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri visited Sabbanahalli COVID Care Centre in Hunsur Taluk yesterday to see treatment of patients at the Centre.

She collected information about the medicines, food and treatment being given to Corona positive patients.

Later, in an interaction with the patients, she instilled confidence in them and asked them not to get disheartened. "All of you will recover and go back home soon. You would not have come here had you got yourself tested as soon as you got COVID symptoms. Since you hesitated, you have landed here. Don't worry you will get well soon," she said.

The DC said ASHA and Anganwadi workers have launched house-to-house survey in Bilikere for early detection and treatment of infected people. They must take steps for admission of people with COVID symptoms into hospitals.

"Don't step out of your houses. Come out only if it is necessary and try to reach home once you are done with the work. Follow the guidelines issued by the Government for your safety," she pointed out.

Assistant Commissioner B.N. Veena, Tahsildhar Basavaraj, Taluk Panchayat Executive Officer Girish and others accompanied the DC.

ZP Dy. Secretary interacts with
COVID patients, instils confidence

Mysuru, May 29 (SSV)- Dr. M. Krishnaraju, Deputy Secretary, Zilla Panchayat, visited a few Gram Panchayats and COVID Care Centres in Nanjangud Taluk and conducted inspection.

Yesterday, he went to Kalale, Sindhuvalli and Muddahalli GPs and collected details about COVID-infected people. He issued directions to shift the home isolated positive patients to nearby COVID Care Centres.

During his visit to Sindhuvalli GP, he inspected the ongoing MGNREGA works and collected COVID-related information.

At Kalale Primary Health Centre, Dr. Krishnaraju saw the line of treatment for positive patients. Later, he visited Kalale GP and spoke to positive patients and instilled confidence in them. Panchayat Development Officers, Prajaktha Tatagara, Vishwanath and others were present.

Minister launches four

Oxygen-fitted buses for COVID patients

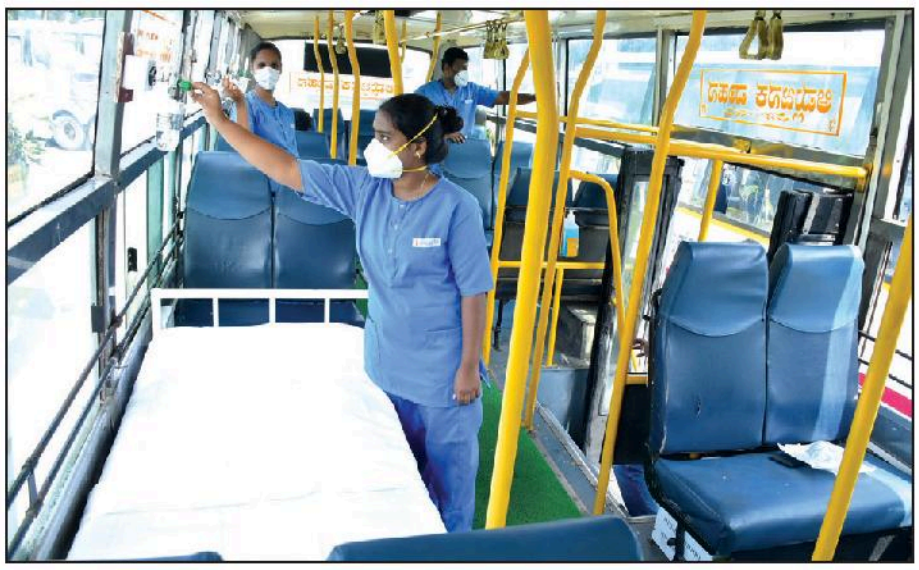
District Minister S.T. Somashekar is seen launching the Oxygen-fitted buses for COVID patients at KSRTC Bus Depot in Bannimantap this morning. Seen are (from right) sponsors Mahaveer and Dileep of the Foundation, MLA S.A. Ramdas, District Minister Somashekar, MLAs L. Nagendra and Tanveer Sait, MP Pratap Simha, MyLAC Chairman N.V. Phaneesh, MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev, Jungle Lodges and Resorts (JLR) Chairman M. Appanna and Zoo Authority of Karnataka Chairman L.R. Mahadevaswamy. Picture below shows the interiors of a modified KSRTC bus with nurses who will be taking care of the patients using the facility.

Mysuru, May 29 (MTY&SSV)- Co-operation and District in-Charge Minister S.T. Somashekar inaugurated four Oxygen Buses, on the concept of 'Oxygen on Wheels' with a view to provide the much-needed oxygen to Corona Positive patients during transit, at KSRTC Bus Depot in Bannimantap here this morning.

These buses have been sponsored by Gadiya Family of Mysuru, under the aegis of Sha Bhabuthmal Rakshanda Gadiya Foundation, in association with Mysuru City Corporation (MCC), District Administration and Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC).

Mahaveer and Dileep of the Foundation have spent Rs. 1.10 lakh on each bus to provide equipment such as jumbo cylinders with the oxygen masks, two oxygen concentrators. In total, four such KSRTC buses have been readied for the sake of Corona patients. The duo have also provided doctors and nurses for each bus.

These customised OxyBuses are fitted with oxygen cylinders and concentrators to support COVID patients who are not able to get oxygen beds and are waiting outside the hospitals. At one time, eight persons can take oxygen in each bus. A bed has been provided in each bus to treat patient in case of emergency. Dedicated nurses will take care of the patients who are in need of oxygen. Patients can utilise this facility, which is free of cost, until they are able to secure admission in the hospital.



To avail Oxygen-fitted buses facility, needy patients may contact District COVID War Room Helpline: 0821-2424111; MCC Helpline Numbers — Krishnaraja (KR) Constituency: 0821-2517922; Chamaraja (CR) Constituency: 0821-2519922; Narasimharaja (NR) Constituency: 0821-2515522.

These buses will be stationed outside various hospitals in city and taluks depending upon the need. The places for stationing them will be decided soon.

Above facility will be monitored by the District COVID War Room.

Speaking after the launch, District Minister Somashekar thanked the Foundation for sponsoring four buses fitted with jumbo oxygen cylinders and opined that it was possible to defeat the pandemic with the help of everyone.

Stating that when 'Oxygen on Wheels' facility was launched in Bengaluru recently, he had requested Transport Minister Laxman Savadi to provide similar facility for Mysuru, the District Minister said it was happy to note that the Sha Bhabuthmal Rakshanda Gadiya Foundation has spent Rs. 4.40 lakh on providing medical equipment for four buses.

The Minister expressed his concern over increase in the number of Black Fungus cases in the district and also ruled out the shortage of medicine to treat this disease. Each patient needs to be given 21 injections which included six at a time and the State Government has supplied the sufficient quantity of injection to the district, he added.

Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha, MLAs Tanveer Sait, L. Nagendra and S.A. Ramdas, KSRTC Mysuru Rural Divisional Controller K. Srinivas, KSRTC Mysuru City Divisional Controller S.P. Nagaraj, Jungle Lodges and Resorts (JLR) Chairman M. Appanna, Zoo Authority of Karnataka Chairman L.R. Mahadevaswamy and Members of the Foundation were present during the launch.

MLA Fund: Sait gives consent to buy Rs. 50 lakh worth COVID medicines

Mysuru, May 29 (MTY& SSV)- Narasimharaja MLA Tanveer Sait has said a letter of consent has been given to the State Government to utilise Rs. 50 lakh from his MLA Local Area Development Fund for the purchase of COVID medicines for health facilities in his Constituency.

He told reporters here this morning that there are eight Primary Health Centres and a COVID Care Centre in his Constituency which require medicine to treat patients. Since there will be delay in procurement of medicines by the Government, permission was sought for concession for direct procurement by Health Department from the companies concerned. The Government has given its consent in this regard. This will help in procuring the medicines within one or two days, he added.

On differences of opinion among the elected representatives and bureaucracy, Sait said it was common to have some minor differences, especially when they were dealing with such a big and dreaded pandemic. But it must not be glorified by media in the interest of society, he said adding that the need of the hour was better coordination among one and all to win the battle against Corona.

On the inauguration of oxygen on wheels facility, the MLA opined that it should have been done long ago. However, it was happy to note that a foundation has sponsored four buses for the sake of Corona patients.

Government relief yet to reach construction workers

Mysuru, May 29 (MK&DM)- Even as the Government recently announced financial packages to vulnerable sections of the society including the Labour sector with much publicity, the non-credit of the promised money to their bank accounts even after more than a week, the construction workers, who are hard hit by the COVID-induced lockdown, are a worried lot, hoping that the relief, though small, will reach them soon.

The Government had announced a relief of Rs. 3,000 each to lakhs of construction workers across the State.

District Labour Welfare Officer Rajesh told *SOM* that though the Government has announced a relief of Rs. 3,000 to each beneficiary, the Department is yet to get guidelines on the ways of distribution.

Pointing out that last year when the COVID-19 contagion broke out, over 70,000 construction workers of the district had registered for getting relief, he said that, then, the announced Rs. 5,000 relief was directly credited to the bank account of beneficiaries. But during the second wave of the contagion, more than 34,000 construction workers have freshly sought relief taking the number to 1.04 lakh, he said and added that this time too there will be direct credit of relief like it was the last time.

WORD OF THE DAY

Nudnik

Pronunciation: nood-nik.
Meaning: Persistently dull, boring pest.
Origin: Everyone, unfortunately, has had experience with a nudnik, "a persistently dull, boring pest." Nudnik is plainly a Yiddishism, a derivative of the Yiddish verb nudyen "to bore, pester." Nudyen may come from Polish nudzić "to weary, bore," or Russian nudit' "to wear out (with complaints, pestering)." The Yiddish suffix –nik, adopted into English as a noun suffix that refers to persons, usually derogatorily, involved in a political cause or group (such as beatnik, peacenik), is also of Slavic origin. The personal suffix –nik appears in English as early as 1905, but the launch of the Soviet satellite Sputnik, literally "traveling companion," popularized –nik ad nauseam. Nudnik entered English in the first half of the 20th century.
Example: Mr. Daniels is one of those quintessential New York characters: a confessed nudnik. Dozens of times a year, he telephones city officials about local irritants, from the lack of sidewalk curb cuts to accommodate wheelchairs to a mound of asphalt left on a sidewalk after a repaving job. —Elizabeth Wurtzel

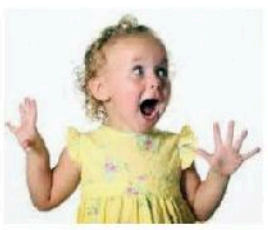
THE ODD WORD

Abraid

To awaken or rouse.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Over the moon



Meaning: The phrase 'Over the Moon' means extremely pleased and happy. You can use the phrase 'Over the Moon' when describing your feeling when something great had happened to you.
Origin: Though the phrase is still popular today, particularly in British Football, the origin of the idiom 'over the moon' has its roots in the early 1700s. One of the first allusions to 'over the moon' in print can be seen in Charles Molloy's 1718 work 'The Coquet', or, 'The English Chevalier': "Tis he! I know him now: I shall jump over the Moon for Joy!"
Example: "When he sent me flowers and a note, I was over the moon."

QUOTE BOX

Mediocrity knows nothing higher than itself, but talent instantly recognizes genius. **—Arthur Conan Doyle**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

WARDWALKROBE

Answer: Walk in wardrobe.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

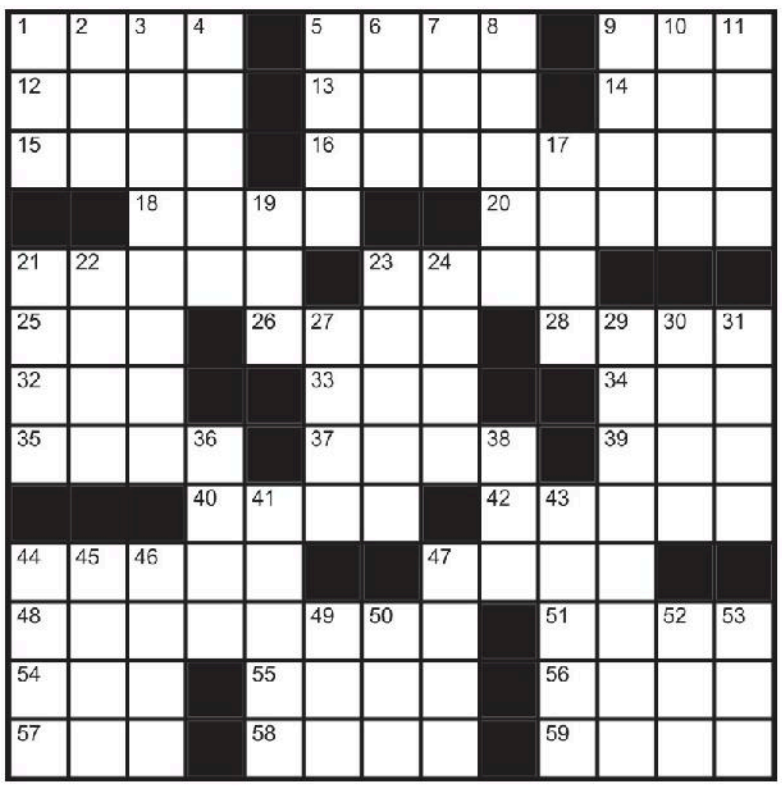
1 For ___ : offered for purchase?
5 Small potato
9 Prefix meaning "life"?
12 Petty criminal
13 Ring of light
14 River in Wales
15 Arrivederci __
16 Brolly
18 Eve's hubby
20 Monks' building
21 Ran out like the tide
23 Returned sound
25 A drink similar to beer
26 Glance or look at
28 Popular news channel
32 "Bad Behaviour" star Stephen
33 Towel word?
34 Exclamation of surprise
35 Respiratory organ
37 Eight as a prefix
39 American slang for a sweetheart?
40 Cuts with an axe
42 Toe or finger?
44 Fencing swords
47 French Marquis, a famous novelist
48 Dismisses from consideration (5,3)
51 By mouth
54 Responses abbreviation
55 Am Natl Stds Inst.
56 Curved glass
57 Jamaican popular music
58 Period of time
59 Lost traction

DOWN

1 Former Soviet prov.
2 Army Post Off.
3 Edible seed (4,4)
4 Avoid
5 A slang word for a friend or a pal
6 An actor who's more enthusiastic than gifted
7 Priestly vestment
8 Jewish scriptures
9 From which flowers grow
10 A sea-grit territory
11 Most commonly used word to indicate a state of satisfaction?
17 Black
19 A synthetic fruit drink
21 British peer
22 The French for 'blue'
23 Narrative poems
24 A small swelling
27 Exhibit or display
29 Unpretentious verse
30 Siamese
31 Unit of electromotive force
36 Clarified butter
38 Concubine's room
41 Literary effort
43 Objects of worship
44 Periods of history
45 Aggressive young criminal
46 Born Free lioness
47 Disturbance
49 __ -track mind : mind preoccupied with just a single subject?
50 2002 Winter Olympics host
52 A type or breed of cuckoo
53 Psychedelic drug

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

M	O	A	B	■	S	T	E	W	■	P	R	F
E	N	Y	A	■	P	E	S	O	■	R	P	G
S	U	E	Z	■	E	X	C	L	A	I	M	S
A	S	S	A	U	L	T	■	V	A	N	■	■
■	■	■	A	G	L	■	D	E	A	C	O	N
M	Y	R	R	H	■	G	A	S	■	E	G	O
R	O	E	S	■	H	A	D	■	U	S	E	D
E	R	G	■	P	E	G	■	A	P	S	E	S
D	E	U	C	E	S	■	D	I	B	■	■	■
■	■	L	A	G	■	P	E	T	R	I	F	Y
C	L	A	P	T	R	A	P	■	A	S	E	A
O	P	T	■	O	L	E	O	■	I	T	E	M
N	S	E	■	P	S	S	T	■	D	O	S	A



SUDOKU

5						3		4
1		4		5				
			1					
		9	3		8			2
7								6
3			2		5	7		
					9			
				2		6		9
2		6						8

Answer to previous puzzle

8	9	2	4	1	3	5	7	6
4	5	1	9	8	7	2	8	3
3	6	7	8	2	5	4	9	1
7	4	9	6	8	2	1	3	5
2	3	6	5	9	1	8	4	7
5	1	8	7	3	4	9	6	2
6	7	4	1	5	8	3	2	9
9	2	5	3	4	6	7	1	8
1	8	3	2	7	9	6	5	4

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

TBYSBWVV OYQWV ABYQ FZW NHFWXXNSWHF

JVW YA WDTWBNWHOW.

TODAY'S CLUE: F EQUALS T

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: There is nothing like a newborn baby to renew your spirit - and to buttress your resolve to make the world a better place.

Organisations, elected representatives lend helping hand

Mysuru, May 29 (KS) -With the second wave of COVID-19 infecting many and snuffing out lives, various organisations, associations, corporate companies, clubs and individuals have stepped in to lend a helping hand to those in trouble besides helping the District Administration by contributing medical equipment, groceries and other essential items to be distributed to hospitals and the needy.

Rotary West Mysore, in a bid to help tongawallas, who are without work and finding it difficult to feed their horses, are distributing fodder worth Rs. 1 lakh to the animals once in three days. Also have donated 50 oximeters worth Rs. 62,000 to the MCC and chairs worth Rs. 40,000 to the Oncology Department of K.R. Hospital.

The Organisation has also distributed 650 face masks to roadside vendors, sanitisers and face masks to Police personnel of Krishnaraja (KR) and Siddarthanagar Traffic Police Stations and groceries to about 25 workers of Dasoha Bhavan atop Chamundi Hill.

Rotary West Mysore President Dr. M.D. Raghavendra said that food worth Rs. 3 lakh will be distributed daily to the homeless and the poor till the lockdown ends.

Child Fund India has donated an oxygen concentrator, oximeter and other medical equipment to Seva Snehi COVID War Room, which was received by MCC Commissioner Shilpa Nag. Corporator Ashwini Sharath, MCC Additional Commissioner M.N. Shashikumar, Zonal Commissioner Nanjundaiah, Development Officer Rajivnath, Environmental Engineer Sridevi, Health Inspector Darshan, Seva Snehi COVID War Room Convenor Sharath Satish, Deveral Peter and Rakesh were present.

MLA G.T. Devegowda, who visited Jayapura Primary Health Centre, distributed kits containing medicines to ASHA workers. MCDCC Bank President G.D. Harish Gowda and others were present.

TVS Motors has provided grocery kits to ASHA and Anganwadi workers coming under Jayapura Community Health Centre. The groceries were distributed by Panchayat Development Officer (PDO) Narahari and Dr. Venkatesh.

As part of CII Mysuru COVID initiative, Managing Director of Lunar Exports (Walkmate) Bastian Joseph handing over 4,000 Medical Kits worth Rs. 10 lakh to MCC Commissioner Shilpa Nag on Thursday to be distributed among COVID patients in home quarantine. The company will also be donating PPE kit worth Rs. 5 lakh shortly.

MUDA Member and BJP leader K. Madesh distributed grocery kits to senior citizens, poor families and the homeless at V.V. Mohalla, Jayalakshmipuram and Gokulam coming under Chamaraja Constituency on Monday.

Bhagya Sagar Educational Trust and Ashwini Gold Company together distributed vaporisers, face masks and sanitiser bottles to the doctors and nurses of Ittigegud Government Hospital. Trust President Manju Gowda, Jnanadev, Akram, Sagar Gowda and others were present.

Child COVID vaccine trials

(Continued from page 1)

The Drug Controller General of India gave Hyderabad-based pharma company Bharat Biotech Ltd. the green signal to conduct the trials in the 2-18 age groups on May 13. In the trial, the vaccine will be given by intramuscular route in two doses, on day 0 and day 28.

The Ethics Committee has stated that a total of 525 children will be part of the trial in three age groups — 2 to 6, 6 to 12 and 12 to 18 — where safety, reactogenicity and immunogenicity of the vaccine in children will be assessed. Over 175 children will be inoculated in each age group.

Confirming this to *SOM* this morning, MMC&RI Dean and Director Dr. C.P. Nanjaraj said that initially, the Ethics Committee for Covaxin's clinical trials in children had identified five institutions including Cheluvamba Hospital and now 10 institutions have been selected.

Trials at paediatric ward

The trials will be conducted at the paediatric ward of the Cheluvamba Hospital. "We may conduct trials on 40 children — depending on the approval by the Centre — first in the age group of 12 to 18 and the dosage has to be decided by the Centre. We are awaiting guidelines," he said. Both Dr. Nanjaraj and MMC&RI Principal Dr. K.R. Dakshayani are in the Ethics Committee.

"As of now, trials will be conducted in the paediatric ward and we will inspect the facilities there in a day or two. We are awaiting SOPs for the identification and mobilisation of children," he said and added that MMC&RI has done a number of clinical trials before, including for BCG on senior citizens.

Dedicated team

The MMC&RI has formed a dedicated team to conduct the trials on children comprising Head of Pathology Department Dr. Bharathi and Associate Professors Dr. Prashanth and Dr. Pradeep. This apart, one scientist each from CFTRI and University of Mysore will be chosen.

Meanwhile, some Western nations including the US have started vaccinating children above the age of 12. Pharma giants Pfizer and Moderna are already conducting trials of their COVID vaccines on children over six months old. Different dosages of the vaccine — 10 micrograms, 20 micrograms and 30 micrograms — are being tested in three age groups under the Pfizer trial, in accordance with the tolerance levels.

Centre's stand

Member (Health) in NITI Aayog and the Chair of NEGVAC, Dr. Vinod K. Paul announced that vaccine trials on children in India would begin soon. "Trials in children in India are also going to begin soon. However, vaccinating children should not be decided on the basis of panic in WhatsApp groups and because some politicians want to play politics," Paul said.

K.R. Hospital to host DRDO's Oxygen Plant

The premises of K.R. Hospital where the Oxygen Plant will come up.

Mysuru, May 29 (RK&BCT)- It's final now. The Defence Research and Development Organisation's (DRDO) Oxygen-producing Plant will be set up at K.R. Hospital.

The DRDO is setting up Liquid Medical Oxygen plant in Mysuru and the project is sponsored by PM-CARES Fund. Across the country, 500 such plants will come up and Karnataka has got seven.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* this morning, Dean and Director of Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMC & RI) Dr. C.P. Nanjaraj said that though there were discussion to set up the Oxygen Plant at the District Hospital, it will now be established at K.R. Hospital.

"Officials from National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) that is preparing the site and implementing the project had visited the K.R. Hospital recently and have decided to set it up near a vacant place next to Emergency Ward," he said. The Emergency Ward is located between Ophthalmology Department and Medical Superintendent's Office.

"Establishing the Plant here near the heritage building will facilitate oxygen supply to the Out Patient Department (OPD), emergency wards, ENT and other critical care units that have over 40 to 50 beds. The oxygen supplied by the Oxygen Storage Plant — having a capacity of 13 KL — installed in the Stone Building premises can supply oxygen to the rest of the wards," he added.

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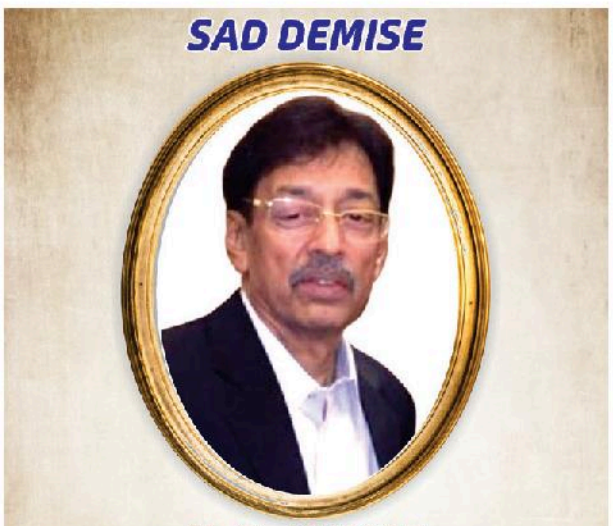

K. R. KUMAR
Chairman, Sunandha Group of Industries, Mysore.
Left for Heavenly Abode on 29-05-2021
Deeply mourned by Family, friends and relatives

Government of India
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
SMFC Division, Mysuru
Post Bag no. 1. Yelwal, Mysore 571 130, Telephone : 0821-2406731/6644 Fax : 0821-240 3064

CORRIGENDUM-I

Ref: BARC/SMF/CS/05/2020-21 Date: 24.05.2021

Name of the work: Annual contract for Jungle clearance & Vents cleaning work in SMF plant site at Ullarthi& Township site at Kudapura, Challakere for the year 2021-22.
Tender No: BARC/SMF/CS/05/2020-21, Dt:06/05/2021

With reference to the above tender, due to prevailing condition of Covid-19 and state wise lockdown. Dates for Request for purchase/ Download of Tender Document is postponed, all bidders are requested tonote the following changes in NIT.

Description	Mentioned in the NIT	To be read as
Dates for Request for purchase/ Download of Tender Document (excel / word formats)	From **13/05/2021 (11:00 Hrs.)** to **24/05/2021 (15:00 Hrs.)** on website **www.tenderwizard.com/DAE** Detailed NIT and corrigendum is also available on website **www.barc.gov.in** for view only.	From **13/05/2021 (11:00 Hrs.)** to **14/06/2021 (15:00 Hrs.) on** website **www.tenderwizard.com/DAE** or **www.tenderwizard.in/DAE** Detailed NIT and corrigendum is also available on website **www.barc.gov.in** for view only.

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